

JUAN VALENCIA)	
Claimant)	
VS.)	
)	
INTERSTATE BRANDS CORPORATION)	Docket No. 247,035
Respondent)	
AND)	
)	
KEMPER INSURANCE COMPANY)	
Insurance Carrier)	

Claimant's work for respondent involved repetitive lifting and turning of pans to place them on a conveyor belt. In early October 1998, claimant heard a popping sound and at the same time experienced a sudden onset of pain in his right wrist while performing his work for respondent. Claimant also testified that he had swelling in his right wrist and pain in his right forearm. Claimant then switched to work in the shipping department. Because of problems with the right hand and forearm, claimant began using his left hand more and began having pain in his left upper extremity.

Claimant reported the problems with his right upper extremity and respondent initially provided medical treatment. Claimant first saw Dr. Hutchison. Dr. Hutchison referred claimant to Dr. Brad W. Storm. Dr. Storm diagnosed Kienböck's disease, a condition that he did not consider to be work related. Claimant has now offered into evidence the opinion of Dr. Lynn D. Ketchum. Dr. Ketchum took x-rays of both wrists. He notes that claimant has Kienböck's in the right wrist but not the left. He considers this fact to be evidence it is not a congenital condition. Dr. Ketchum also notes the history of a pop and absence of any problems before claimant began working for respondent. Dr. Ketchum states that in his opinion the Kienböck's was caused or aggravated by claimant's work.

The Administrative Law Judge relied upon the opinion of Dr. Ketchum to award medical treatment at respondent's expense. The Board also finds the opinions expressed by Dr. Ketchum more persuasive and agrees.

Respondent asserts that treatment for the left upper extremity should be denied on the grounds claimant did not give timely notice. But the Board concludes the injury to the left upper extremity was a direct and natural result of the injury on the right and for that reason requires no separate notice. It is considered part of the initial injury for which notice was given.

The order should be affirmed.

WHEREFORE, it is the finding, decision, and order of the Appeals Board that the order entered by Administrative Law Judge Brad E. Avery on April 27, 2000, should be, and the same is hereby, affirmed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this ____ day of July 2000.

BOARD MEMBER

c: Diane F. Barger, Wichita, KS
P. Kelly Donley, Wichita, KS
Brad E. Avery, Administrative Law Judge
Philip S. Harness, Director